

Consolidated
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Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

The Torrance Herald

and LOMITA NEWS

One
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This Issue

SIXTEENTH YEAR—NO. 46

TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1930

Page 3-A

NEW OIL-FIELD IN CITY BEING STARTED NOW

Located East of Western,
South of East Road;
Another Near Ohio

A new oil field is looming for Torrance, east of Western avenue and south of East road. The derrick and drilling machinery are already on the ground and excavations have been made preparatory to erecting the derrick. It is expected that the well will be spudded in within three weeks. This information was given this morning by C. W. Hammack of Torrance, who is supplying the machinery. The well is located on the property of Charles Sheeley. Mr. Sheeley owns seven acres outright and has taken leases on over 30 acres adjoining.

If the well proves commercially productive, Messrs. Sheeley and Hammack plan to drill 40 wells on their holdings. While the well is classed as a wildcat, there are good indications to warrant its drilling. The structure was located over 50 years ago by Mr. Sheeley's father, who was a government geologist, and it was relocated seven years ago in another government survey, according to Hammack.

Further indications of an oil structure were discovered about five years ago when the Peterson-Barker well was drilled. While this well was never put on production, an oil structure was encountered and many believe that if the well had been drilled correctly that a field would have been started at that time.

Mr. Hammack stated that the initial well on the Sheeley property had been thoroughly examined and will be rushed to completion. Another Near Ohio
North of Torrance, preparations are being made to drill a well on Cypress street, between Center and Chicago, which is approximately a quarter mile north of the Ohio Oil company's well.

'Adam and Eva' Will Be Senior Class Play Here

Will Be Presented at High
School Auditorium
on November 21

"Adam and Eva," the play chosen by the senior class of 1931 to be presented in the high school auditorium November 21 at 8 p. m.

This play is the story of a wealthy business man, Mr. King, whose greatest troubles are his two beautiful daughters, Julia, the elder, has married into the old New York family of De Witt, which also adds to the worries of time trying to decide whether to marry Lord Andrew Gordon or Dr. Delamater.

After a mental breakdown, Mr. King decides to turn his family over to Adam Smith, one of his business associates, while he goes on a business trip for three months. Adam has many worries trying to rule these two daughters, who insist upon spending enormous amounts of money.

Smith receives a message that the King business is ruined. And what happens then?
Uncle Horace.....Bob Hannan
Mr. King.....Richard Stevens
Eva King.....Betty McIntyre
Julie De Witt.....Kathryn Fordice
Clinton De Witt.....Manford Kirby
Lord Andrew Gordon.....

Fred Marsteller
Doctor Delamater.....Howard Totten
Aunt Abby.....Edith Holland
Cornelia (the maid).....Ethel Corbett
The tickets for this performance are 35 cents for the unreserved and 50 cents for the reserved seats. The tickets are being reserved at the Dolley Drug store.

BILL THE BARBER
SAYS INFLUENZA'S
WHAT YOU
THINK YOU
POSSSESS
UNTIL YOU
TRY TO
USE IT

OBSERVANCE OF ARMISTICE DAY SUCCESS

Three Civic Programs Are
Given in Honor of
World Peace

Observance of Armistice day here Tuesday was a well-rounded civic enterprise which was one of the most successful community events ever held in Torrance. Starting with an open session of the Torrance Men's Bible class at the Torrance theater and a union church service at the high school Sunday morning, the observance of the cessation of hostilities 12 years ago culminated in a fine parade and program by the American Legion Tuesday morning.

Lieut. Chaplain R. W. Shrum and the band from the U. S. S. W. Virginia contributed the program given by the Bible class, which was attended by a large gathering of men, their families and friends.

Post Expresses Thanks
The union church service at the high school later in the morning was in charge of Rev. G. G. Schmidt, and this also drew a large crowd.

Two bands were in the line of march Tuesday morning, the Torrance band and the Gardena American Legion post band. The procession was a distinct credit to the local post as it included a number of organizations.

Following the parade a fine patriotic program was given in front of the American Legion club house on Carson street, with Captain Charles W. Hoffman, of the 160th Infantry, presenting the Armistice day address. Commander Earl Connor today expressed the gratitude of the post to all organizations and individuals who assisted the Bert S. Crossland post in presenting both the parade and program.

POSTOFFICE TO INSTALL MORE SUB-STATIONS

Local Office in Expansion
Program for Better
Service in City

Because of the increasing population of the city and because the postoffice department believes in being of service to residents of a community, two new contract stations will be opened in Torrance November 16, according to Postmaster Alfred Gouder.

Contract station number one will be located in Riley's Confectionery store at the corner of Portola avenue and Redondo boulevard. C. G. Riley will be the clerk in charge. Station No. 2 will be located in the grocery store at the corner of Madrid and Sonoma avenues, and Mrs. Mary Harder will be the clerk in charge.

Establishment of these new stations brings the total for the Torrance postoffice to three, as one has been in existence for some time in North Torrance at the Pueblo, where Albert Vejarde is in charge, Gouder said.

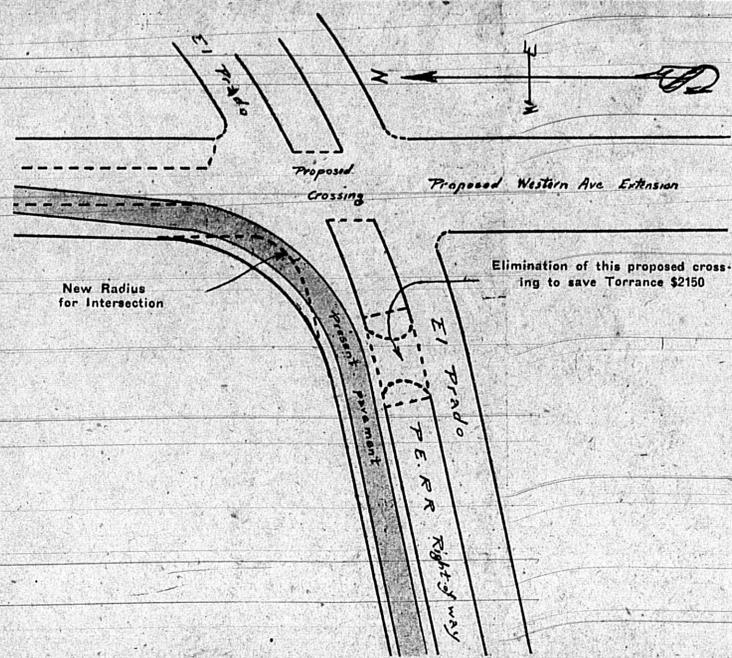
Better service can be given to residents near the contract stations, the postmaster said, and persons living in the vicinity of the stations are urged to patronize them as much as possible instead of the main postoffice because of the saving of time and energy.

Lomita Family Back From European Tour

While the unemployment condition in Germany is very bad at the present, with more than three million men out of work, France is the one European country that is out of the depression, according to A. Schatz, of Lomita, who has just returned with his wife and children, Frank and Marguerita, from a seven month trip in Europe.
"France today is in fine condition," Schatz said. "That nation is apparently on the up-grade, both financially and economically with little, if any, unemployment."
While across the sea, the Schatz family toured the two countries named, Austria, Roumania, Switzerland and England.

BUY Something NEW, NOW
and IN TORRANCE

Work Starts on Western Crossing



This diagram depicts the plan for the re-alignment of Western avenue to eliminate the "death curve" just north of the P. E. viaduct. Construction work was started by the county on this project here this morning, and the new, straightened Western avenue and grade crossing at El Prado is expected to be finished within three months. When the job is completed motorists may enter the city and depart via either side of El Prado.

Actual construction work on the re-alignment of Western avenue from 209th street to El Prado to eliminate the "dangerous" curve north of the P. E. viaduct, was started this morning by the Griffith company under contract with the county.

The city of Torrance granted the county permission to do the work September 16 when the Board of Supervisors indicated they wished to improve Western and establish a grade crossing at El Prado.

According to the plans of the Griffith company, the work will be completed within 60 to 90 days. It is the intention of the construction forces to keep Western open to traffic as long as possible, but as the work nears completion the artery may have to be closed for a short time.

To Beautify El Prado
As soon as the road is re-aligned to make a straight and gradual slope down from 309th street to the tracks and thence by a double-barrelled thoroughfare to El Prado, the city of Torrance will start to beautify each side of El Prado with trees and shrubs, it is reported.

The county's plans as revealed here two months ago indicated that the work will be a cash job, to be paid from the general funds of the county. It is estimated that this will save Torrance property owners approximately \$2500 on the crossing alone and several thousand dollars on the re-constructed approaches to the grade.

The county's plans are to go back to 209th street on the north end of Western and build a gradual approach to the crossing, eliminating the grade curve, and then to build the southerly approach from about 211th street. The new roadway will permit motorists to turn at Cabrillo avenue from Western without going around curves at the viaduct and near the P. E. station.

Supervisors Are Canvassing Vote

Check-Up Expected to Be
Completed Nov. 20

The county board of supervisors this week became an official canvassing board, when the returns of the general election were ready to be officially canvassed. The 130 clerks necessary to complete the canvass are in charge of Millicent Edinger, secretary to Supervisor Frank L. Shaw.

The board of supervisors will be in session each day during the canvass, which is expected to be completed by November 20. The absentee votes, of which 145 were taken out, will be counted on November 19, it was declared. Altogether there is a total of 485,000 votes to be checked, the absentee votes must be added to this figure, and the final totals certified to the secretary of state.

GIRLS' PLAY DAY WILL BE HELD FRIDAY

Local Elementary School is
to Compete Against
Two Other Groups

An annual event in elementary school life which attracts a large number of girls to competitive activity with girls from other schools will be held here tomorrow, Friday morning, at 9:30 o'clock. The Torrance elementary school will compete with the Gardena and the Fifteenth street school from San Pedro.

Miss Alice Corothers has been in charge of the practice and Miss Volney Henderson, Mrs. Juliette Young, Mrs. Mabel Sweet, Mrs. Helen Berry and Mrs. Nellie Bradford have been training the groups which will represent the local school in the contests. As both Gardena and the Fifteenth street schools are quite large, the competition is expected to be strong. The following are members of the Midget team: Fetch and carry: Norma Patterson, Kiyoko Nagai, Amelia Carr, Virginia Hill, Jean Huguette, Betty Maffi, Ruby Zaver and Kathleen Mickles. Round the post relay: Marlan Bates, Thelma Wright, Helen Greiner, Arlys Possum, Rita Mae Hughes, Junonia Brooks, Beatrice Mchewan and Maxine Clark. Jumping relay: Marjorie Page, Elsa Norman, Kinye Nagai, Carmel violante, Myrtle McLean, Norrine Schroeder and Audrey Stanley.

The Primaries are: Cartwheel: Muriel Alverson, Alma Pressgrove, Suyako Hama, Phyllis Schultz, Dorothy Hammond, Rita Mae Hughes, Janet Davey, Irene Hoke and substitute, Betty Getz. Shuttle race: Dorothy Hammond, Ruth Taylor, Marjorie Bond, Lucille Acree, Suyako Hama, Mary Violante, Frances Horney, Lorena Jones, and substitute, Jean McLaughlin. One-legged relay: Marjorie Violante, Marjorie Bond, Suyako

(Continued on 4-A)

OLD BURGLARY JOBS SOLVED BY COPS HERE

Aged Lennox Man Said to
Have Admitted Robbing
Curtiss Home Here

Admittedly an eight-time loser at the hands of the law, Charles R. Sligh, 51, of Lennox, was held to answer to the superior court by Police Judge Rippy Friday afternoon in connection with an asserted burglary of Mrs. C. N. Curtiss' home at 1548 Post avenue on the night of December 16, 1927.

The robbery, which occurred nearly three years ago, cost Mrs. Curtiss approximately \$1000 in jewelry, according to police. Sligh was suspected of the theft when some of the loot, amounting to about \$75, was found in the basement of the apartment house in Hermosa where the suspect was living. Further investigation by Sergeant John Stroh is said to have linked the man with the crime.

Refuses to Testify
At his hearing Friday, Sligh refused to testify and pledged his own defense, having studied a copy of the California criminal code while he was in jail here since his arrest. Mrs. Annie Nye, of Lennox, is reported to have given the Torrance officer information which led to Sligh's arrest. She also testified at the hearing.

According to Police Chief G. A. Calder, Sligh admitted that he had served a number of penitentiary sentences and was an "eight-time loser."

It is thought that the alleged burglar either melted down the gold of his loot or sold it to a "fence" in San Francisco. At his hearing here, Sligh admitted he had watched Mrs. Curtiss leave her house on the date of the robbery and then he entered through the French doors that open into the patio. In his haste to run such the bedroom, Sligh overlooked jewelry valued at \$1000 that was contained in a chamois bag near the articles he took.

You Help Everybody by Buying
in Torrance NOW!

Noted Writer Will Talk to Gardeners

Opaf Scarborough, well-known writer on floricultural topics, and garden authority, will be the speaker of the evening at the November meeting of the Torrance District Garden club to be held this evening at 7:30 at the American Legion club house.

Mrs. Scarborough will talk about perennial plants and discuss seasonal flowers. The talk will be illustrated by lantern slides. Every member of the club is especially urged to attend this meeting as there will be election of officers and important matters to be discussed.

Torrance Fourth Lowest in Taxes

City Has Assessed Value of
\$28,717,422, Report

A survey of the Tax Payers' Guide, as compiled by the County Auditor for 1930, shows that Torrance has the fourth lowest tax rate of incorporated cities in the county. This city pays 56 cents on property in the original city limits, and 63 cents in annexed territory. Vernon with a 26-cent rate, West Covina with a 40-cent rate, and Signal Hill with a 43-cent tax are the lowest. Sierra Madre pays the highest, \$2.22, according to the Guide. The city of Torrance has a grand total assessed valuation of \$28,717,422, it is reported. The total tax levy collected here is \$142,080.84.

Harbor Chamber Group Meets at School Tonight

Woodcrest Association is
to Be Host at Washington
High School

The Woodcrest Improvement association will serve as hosts for the next regular meeting of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce at the George Washington high school at 107th and Denker streets, this evening, November 13. A business session of the delegates of the constituent member organizations will be held at 5 p. m. to be followed by a banquet and general program in the high school cafeteria at 6:30 p. m.

The delegates, members and guests will be welcomed by L. A. Waxmire, president of the Woodcrest Improvement body and one of the early pioneers in the federated group. The response will be made by Frank L. Walton of Compton, treasurer and past president of the Harbor District organization.

Professor to Speak
"Romance of the Ranchos," a colorful story of Southern California as portrayed through land titles will be told by E. Palmer Connor, chief searcher of the Title Insurance and Trust Company of Los Angeles.

Professor Leonard S. Smith, formerly of the University of Wisconsin and widely known in the United States and abroad as a city planner and highway engineer, will give an illustrated address of the reconstruction of Japan. Professor Smith has traveled world wide and his personal intimate knowledge of Japan makes this subject not only entertaining but authentic.

Officers to Be Nominated
Officers to serve the federated group for the ensuing year will be nominated at the business session of this meeting. The Harbor District Chambers of Commerce is a federation of 50 chambers of commerce and civic associations in the various districts of the large regional territory embraced in the First and Fourth Supervisorial districts of the county.

Councilman A. E. Henning of the 15th district of the city of Los Angeles, the incumbent president, will preside. Interested citizens throughout the district are cordially invited to attend.

Dewey Godard Now Recovering at Home

Dewey Godard, proprietor of the Selma Cleaners, was taken to his home this week from the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital. Mr. Godard underwent an emergency operation for appendicitis on October 27 and was in a very serious condition. He is now making a good recovery. It is reported.

SURVEY MADE BY STEEL MEN OF MILL HERE

President of Columbia Co.
Says Employees Won't
Lose From No Work

A. T. DeForest, president, and five other officials of the Columbia Steel company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, were in Torrance Tuesday of this week and made a brief survey of the Torrance mill. Others in the official party were L. F. Rains, vice president; W. A. Ross, controller; Harlow F. Wilson, vice president; A. G. Brown, sales manager, and Gus Nauert, assistant sales manager. They were met in Torrance by Bert Lenz, manager of the local mill, and the corps of department heads.

Commenting upon the unemployment condition, Mr. DeForest stated that no employee of the Columbia Steel company would be allowed to suffer because of lack of work. "It is the aim of the corporation to keep its 3000 employees supplied with work," said the executive, and added that "if we haven't got the work, we'll make some."

The DeForest party arrived in Los Angeles Tuesday from Iron-ore, Utah, and announced its intention of opening additional territory in Utah for mining its raw materials. Characterizing the business depression as "just one of those things," President DeForest said his company would continue leading the "back to normalcy" movement by expending a large sum in development and expansion. He did not commit himself on future plans for Torrance, but there is a persistent rumor that the corporation plans to locate its mill here.

Rotary Troop of Scouts to Give Program

Public is Invited to Attend
First Open Session
of Organization

All parents and friends of Boy Scouts in Troop No. 3 are invited to attend the first open meeting of the troop tomorrow, Friday evening, at 7:30 o'clock, at the Scout hall, when a series of inter-parade contests will be given. Scoutmaster Robert Wellen has arranged an interesting program of Scout activities to entertain the officials and guests present. All members of the Torrance Rotary club, the troop's sponsor, are urged to attend this meeting.

Badges will be presented to the boys winning the signalling, knot tying, friction fire, first aid, inspection and parents present contests. The inter-parade rally program will be presented to the winning patrol of the three units: Tiger, Flaming Arrow, and Black Bear, in the organization now.

Truck in Crash With P. E. Train

A small truck, operated by W. F. Snodgrass, of 4605 Electric street, was almost totally demolished in collision with a Pacific Electric street car at La Brea sub-station and Redondo boulevard Saturday afternoon, but no injuries to the driver were reported by police. Sunday afternoon an intersection crash at Vermont avenue and 91st street was reported to police here by C. A. Dalley, of this city, who said that L. H. Bemis, Los Angeles, drove in front of the truck operated by Dalley and caused some damage to the vehicle. No injuries were reported.

29 Shopping Days
'Til Christmas